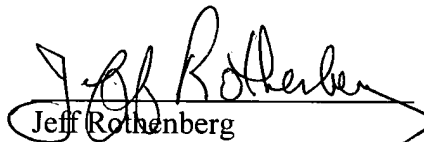


REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, a cross reference to related applications has been added to the specification, and the original claims and Abstract amended to conform with standard U.S. practice. More specifically, the reference numbers have been deleted and the phrase "characterized in that" replaced by "wherein". Claims 1-7 remain in this case.

Favorable consideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Rothenberg", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeff Rothenberg
Reg. No. 26,429
Attorney for Applicant

Dated: Dec 12, 2003

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